

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:

a storage which stores management information defining acquisition items of position information in a review document;

an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said review document at which a comment is to be added and said comment;

an acquiring unit responsive to said input unit which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said management information in said storage and stores said position information and said comment in said storage while correlating them to each other;

a search unit coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from said storage, said position information and comment associated with said review document; and

a display unit which collectively displays said position information and comment associated with said review document.

2. A document review support apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said management information defines classification of an application through which said review document is prepared, classification of an object prepared by said application, and acquisition

items of the position information in said review document.

3. A document review support apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a reflecting unit for preparing a minute adapted to put together said comment and position information associated with said review document and storing said minute in said storage.

4. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising a commanding unit which, when a comment in said minute is designated by said user, searches a comment coincident with said comment designated by said user from said storage, searches position information correlating to said retrieved comment and commands an editor for edition of said review document to emphatically display a position corresponding to said position information in said review document.

5. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising an editor which, when a comment in said review document is designated by said user, searches a comment coincident with said comment designated by said user and emphatically displays a portion in said minute corresponding to said searched comment.

6. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising an editor which, when a solution comment against a comment in said minute is inputted from said user, searches a comment coincident

with said comment corresponding to said solution comment and stores said solution comment in said storage by correlating it to said searched comment.

7. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3, wherein when receiving an input of said comment, said input unit acquires identification information of said user and said reflecting unit gives the identification information of said user to said minute in correspondence to said comment.

8. A document review support apparatus according to claim 7 further comprising an editor for searching all comments and solution comments in said minute from a specified range in a single review document, correlating corresponding comment and solution comment to said single review document and displaying said correlated comment and solution comment.

9. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising an editor for receiving a priority order of the comment described in said minute from said user and giving said priority order to said minute by correlating it to said comment.

10. A document review support apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said editor sorts comments in said minute on the basis of said position information and said priority order.

11. A document review support apparatus according to claim 3 further comprising:

an editor which, when solution comments

against comments in said minute are inputted from said user, gives said solution comments to said minute by correlating them to said comments; and

a management unit for searching comments not correlated to said solution comments in said minute, preparing a pending issue list adapted to put together comments to which said solution comments are not correlated and storing said pending issue list in said storage.

12. A document review support apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when a comment in said minute is designated by said user, said management unit searches, from said storage, a comment in said pending issue list which is coincident with said comment designated by said user and emphatically displays a portion in said pending issue list which corresponds to said searched comment.

13. A document review support apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said management unit searches from said storage a comment corresponding to a solution comment in said pending issue list, searches from said storage a comment in said review document which is coincident with said searched comment, and correlates the comment in said review document to said comment in said pending issue list.

14. A document review support apparatus according to claim 13, wherein when a comment or a solution comment in said pending issue list is designated by

said user, said management unit searches from said storage a comment or a solution comment in said review document which is coincident with said comment or said solution comment in said pending issue list, searches, from said storage, position information corresponding to said comment or solution comment in said review document and commands an editor for editing said review document to emphatically display a position in said review document which corresponds to said position information.

15. A document review support apparatus according to claim 13, wherein when a comment or a solution comment in said review document is designated by said user, said management unit searches from said storage a comment or a solution comment in said pending issue list which is coincident with said comment or said solution comment in said review document and emphatically displays a portion in said pending issue list which corresponds to said comment or said solution comment in said pending issue list.

16. A document review support apparatus according to claim 13 further comprising:

an editor for editing said review document on the basis of a comment or solution comment in said review document; and

a management unit for managing a difference caused in said review document before and after edition.

17. A document review support apparatus according

to claim 1, wherein said acquiring unit stores in said storage a plurality of pieces of position information and a plurality of pieces of comments by correlating them to each other.

18. A method for supporting review of a document, comprising the steps of:

storing, in a storage, management information defining acquisition items of position information in a review document;

receiving from a user an input of a designated position in said review document at which a comment is to be added and said comment;

acquiring said position information from the position designated by said user in accordance with said management information in said storage and storing, in said storage, said position information and said comment by correlating them to each other;

searching, from said storage, said position information and comment associated with said review document; and

displaying said position information and said comment associated with said review document collectively.

19. A program for implementing a method of supporting review of a document comprising the steps of:

storing management information defining acquisition items of position information of a review

document in a storage;

receiving from a user an input of a designation of a position in said review document at which a comment is to be added and said comment;

acquiring said position information from the position designated by said user in accordance with said management information in said storage and storing said position information and said comment in said storage by correlating them to each other;

searching, from said storage, said position information and comment associated with said review document; and

collectively displaying said position information and comment associated with said review document.